

Link to [Committee Assignments](#) or [Committee Members](#)

Purpose

The primary function of the Advisory Committee is to review and make recommendations on all matters to be considered by Town Meeting. This includes all Annual and Special Town Meeting articles, including the Annual Appropriations Article with the proposed operating and capital budgets for the coming year. In carrying out these duties, the Committee "...may examine the books and records of any board, committee or officer of the Town so far as permitted by law." In addition to its advisory role to Town Meeting, the Advisory Committee is the only authority that may approve transfers from the Reserve Fund, established to address unforeseen or emergency expenditures.

Organization

The Committee consists of between 20 and 30 registered voters of the Town with at least one elected Town Meeting Member appointed from each of the sixteen precincts. No more than eight members may be at large. All members are appointed, by the Moderator for three-year staggered terms.

At its annual organizational meeting in July, the members of the Committee elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for the upcoming fiscal year. One of the Chair's responsibilities is to assign each member of the Committee to one of seven subcommittees. The Chair selects a member from each subcommittee to serve as its chairperson. A list of current officers, members, subcommittees, and responsibilities for FY2008 is included herein.

The Advisory Committee office is staffed by part-time Executive Assistant, Wendy Pray, who can be reached via email at wpray@brooklinema.gov or at 617-730 2115.

Committee Procedures

The Warrant for Annual and Special Town Meetings is closed 75 days before the opening session of the meeting. Once the Warrant is closed, the Advisory Committee begins its review of articles. The Chair of the Advisory Committee assigns the articles to the appropriate subcommittees. The Subcommittee Chairs then schedule and preside over public hearings on the articles. Notice of the public hearings is posted outside of the Town Clerk's Office at least 48 hours before the hearing. An effort is always made to notify petitioners and other interested parties. The public hearings provide an opportunity for both proponents and opponents of various issues to offer oral and written testimony in support of their views and for subcommittee members to ask questions.

The warrant for the Annual Town Meeting always includes an article to appropriate funds for the following year's operating and capital budgets. Review of the budget begins once the Town Administrator's Financial Plan is released in mid-February. The various elements of the proposed budget are assigned to the appropriate subcommittees and the same public hearing procedures mentioned above are followed.

After the public hearings take place, the full Advisory Committee schedules the issues for discussion. These meetings take place on Tuesday and Thursday nights in Room 208 of the

Old Lincoln School, 194 Boylston Street (Rt. 9). Notice of the meetings is posted outside of the Town Clerk's Office and an attempt is made to contact interested parties, particularly those individuals who attended the earlier public hearings. Meetings of the full Advisory Committee are open to the public but are not public hearings. At the Chairman's discretion, a nonmember may be asked to comment or provide clarification on a matter.

The Subcommittees report on the results of their review, including any comments made at the public hearings, and then present their recommendations to the full Committee. The Committee takes a vote on each Warrant article and the votes become the basis for written recommendations which are presented to Town Meeting in written form 15 days prior to the start of Town Meeting. The recommendations of the Board of Selectmen, who conduct a concurrent review of the articles, are also distributed at this time.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Harry K. Bohrs, Chair
Pct. 3 (Exp. 2010)

Neil Wishinsky, Vice Chair
Pct. 5 (Exp. 2010)

Charles A. Baker
AL (Exp. 2011)

Carla Benka

Pct. 13 (Exp. 2010)

Michael Berger
Pct. 16 (Exp. 2011)

Edith Brickman

Pct. 4 (Exp. 2010)

Francis G. Caro
Pct. 8 (Exp. 2010)

Kenneth W. Chin

Pct. 2 (Exp. 2011)

Benjamin Franco

Pct. 1 (Exp. 2010)

Nancy S. Heller
Pct. 8 (Exp. 2011)

Sytske Humphrey
Pct.6 (Exp. 2011)

Janice S. Kahn
Pct. 15 (Exp. 2011)

Estelle Katz
Pct. 7 (Exp. 2009)

Bobbie Knable

Pct.11 (Exp. 2012)

Frederick Lebow
AL (Exp. 2009)

Fred Levitan
Pct. 14 (Exp. 2010)

Pamela Lodish
Pct. 14 (Exp. 2011)

Sean M. Lynn-Jones
AL (Exp. 2010)

Shaari S. Mittel
Pct. 14 (Exp. 2009)

Michael F. Oates

Pct. 12 (Exp. 2010)

Roberta Ornstein
AL (Exp. 2010)

William B. Powell
AL (Exp. 2012)

Lori D. Salkin

Pct. 10 (Exp. 2010)

Lee L. Selwyn

Pct. 12 (Exp. 2011)

Stanley L. Spiegel
Pct. 2 (Exp. 2010)

Michael S. Traister
Pct. 10 (Exp. 2011)

Leonard A. Weiss
AL (Exp. 2011)

Karen Wenc

Pct. 11 (Exp. 2012)

BROOKLINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FY2010 SUBCOMMITTEES AS OF September 09, 2009

Harry K. Bohrs, Chair H:617-566-3556 W:617-638-7193 F:617-638-7037
E:harry.bohrs@bmc.org

Neil Wishinsky, Vice Chair H:617-739-0181 E:neilw@rcn.com

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE: Advisory Committee, Conditions of Appropriation, Debt and Interest, Finance, Information Technology, Selectmen, Town Clerk, Unclassified

Michael S. Traister, Chair H:617-839-8900 F:978-975-9930 E:traister@hotmail.com

Benjamin Franco H:617-435-9413 E:benjamin.franco@earthlink.net

Roberta Ornstein H:617-232-5252 E:ornstein@verizon.net

Lori Salkin H:617-487-8224 E:lorisalkin@gmail.com

Stanley L. Spiegel H:617-739-0448 W:978-934-2445 F:617-739-0448 E:sdspiegel@att.net

CAPITAL: Building, Capital Improvements Program, Public Works, Recreation

Carla Benka, Chair H:617-277-6102 F:617-277-8675 E:rcvben@earthlink.net

Michael Berger H:617-734-6139 W:617-787-1440 F:617-787-5843

E:bergerart@aol.com

Frederick Lebow H:617-739-1930 W:617-787-1440 F:617-787-5843

E:fredl@fslassociates.com

Fred Levitan H:617-734-1986 W:617-962-2434 F:617-734-2544

E:flevitan@comcast.net

Pamela Lodish H:617-566-5533 F:617-566-5332 E:pam@lodish.com

HUMAN SERVICES: Council on Aging, Health, Human Relations Youth Resources, Library, Veterans' Services

Francis G. Caro, Chair H:617-739-9228 W:617-287-7327 F:617-287-7080

E:frank.g.caro@gmail.com Estelle Katz H:617-566-3457 E:estellesings@comcast.net

Edie Brickman H:617-734-5090 E:ediebrickman@hotmail.com

Sytske V. Humphrey H:617-277-1493 W:617-730-2580 E:sytskev@gmail.com

PERSONNEL: Collective Bargaining, Human Resources, Personnel Benefits

Kenneth Chin, Chair H:617-233-8338 E: master.recruiter@gmail.com

Nancy S. Heller H:617-277-6108 E: nsheller@rcn.com

Christine M. Westphal H:617-738-7981 E:dineratend@aol.com

PLANNING AND REGULATION: Economic Development, Legal Services, Planning and Community Development, Zoning

Neil Wishinsky, Chair H:617-739-0181 E:neilw@rcn.com

Charles Baker H:617-566-4147 F:617-406-6018 E:charles.baker@dlapiper.com

Sean M. Lynn-Jones H:617-738-6228 W:617-495-1463 F:617-496-4403

E:sean_lynn-jones@harvard.edu

William Powell H:617-731-0013 E:wpowellaia@aol.com

Stanley L. Spiegel H:617-739-0448 W:978-934-2445 F:617-739-0448

E:sdspiegel@att.net

Lee L. Selwyn H:617-277-3388 W:617-598-2222 E:lselwyn@econtech.com

PUBLIC SAFETY: Fire and Police

Janice S. Kahn , Chair H:617-739-0606 F:617-739-6723 E:jske514@aol.com

Carla Benka H:617-277-6102 F:617-277-8675 E:rcvben@earthlink.net

Harry K. Bohrs H:617-566-3556 W:617-638-7193 F:617-638-7037

E:harry.bohrs@bmc.org

Michael Oates H:617-713-0443 E:mfoates@gmail.com

Karen Wenc H:617-232-4983 E:kwdevi@yahoo.com

SCHOOLS

Leonard A. Weiss, Chair H:617-277-8403 F:419-821-2425 E:lenweiss@rcn.com

Bobbie Knable H:617-731-2096 E:bobbieknable@gmail.com

Shaari S. Mittel H:617-277-0043 F:617-277-4127 E:shaarimittel@aol.com

